BLACKSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

News Release

DATE: December 16, 2005

CONTACT: Lt. B.E. Bradbery 961-1810

SUBJECT: Five injured in Traffic Crash

Blacksburg police are investigating a traffic crash that left five people injured and slowed rush hour traffic.

Police were called to the 2100 black of South Main Street at 5:16 p.m. Friday to investigate a two vehicle collision. The initial investigation revealed that a 1997 Dodge mini van was turning left onto South Main Street from the Wilco-Hess parking lot when it pulled into the path of a northbound 1991 Ford F-150 pick-up truck. The driver of the truck was unable to stop and struck the van in the driver's side. Both vehicles then crossed the northbound lanes, the turn lane and the southbound lanes before coming to rest near a street light on the southbound side of Main Street.

The driver of the truck, 19-year-old Cody Webb of Shawsville, Virginia and his passenger, 22 year old Jorge Campos-Garcia of Radford were both transported to Montgomery Regional Hospital with multiple injuries. The truck is listed as a total loss. The driver of the van, 53 year Linda Atkinson of Baltimore, Maryland had to be cut from the car by rescue personnel and was taken to Montgomery Regional Hospital with multiple injuries. Her passengers, 28 year old Towanda Cole of Owingsmill, Maryland and 73 year old Lucy Campbell of Baltimore were also transported to the hospital with multiple injuries. Campbell and Atkinson, who were seriously injured, were later transferred to a Roanoke Hospital. The van was also listed as a total loss.

Police shut down two southbound lanes and one northbound lane of traffic in both directions for about two hours while officers cleared the scene. Alcohol was not a factor in the crash. The truck's speed has not been determined and charges are pending the completion of the investigation.